Municipal Affairs and Housing

Village of Caroline

Dissolution Study

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Alberta

Alberta Mur.'cipal Affairs and Housing
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What is municipal dissolution?

Dissolution is the process under the province's *Municipal Government Act* that occurs when a municipality relinquishes its status as an incorporated municipality to become a hamlet in the surrounding rural municipality.

The Village of Caroline (the village) is an incorporated municipality, which means that within its defined boundaries, the village council has the power to pass bylaws, the responsibility to provide services to residents, and the authority to collect property taxes and other revenues to support those services.

If Caroline were to dissolve, it would no longer be a municipality, but would become a hamlet in Clearwater County (the county). The county council would then be responsible for governing, serving, and taxing the residents of Caroline in addition to the population that it already serves.

What is a dissolution study?

A dissolution study is a report to assist Alberta's Minister of Municipal Affairs and Housing in deciding if a proposed dissolution should proceed.

The Village of Caroline dissolution study highlights what residents could expect to happen if their municipality were to dissolve. It looks at the municipal functions, services, financial situation, and community issues in the Village of Caroline.

The study compares how the village provides services and how the county would provide those services to Caroline residents if the village dissolves and becomes a hamlet in the county. Clearwater County would provide services in a similar manner as it does to residents living in hamlets in the county.

The areas that are examined in this report include the possible changes to service levels, council representation, administration, and municipal finances.

Alberta Municipal Affairs and Housing obtained the information for this dissolution study from the council and administration of the village and county, and from provincial records.

Why consider dissolution?

A petition to conduct a dissolution study was circulated in the village and submitted to the Minister of Municipal Affairs and Housing in October 2005. The petition was officially deemed to be insufficient; however, the village council passed a resolution at a public meeting on November 22, 2005, requesting that the Minister conduct a dissolution study.

The Minister initiated a dissolution study as required under section 130(2)(a) of the *Municipal Government Act*.

What is the existing situation in Caroline?

Caroline was incorporated as a village on December 31, 1951. It is located southwest of the City of Red Deer along Highway 54. Clearwater County is the village's rural neighbour.

According to the records of Alberta Municipal Affairs and Housing, the village population is 556. This is an increase of approximately 18 percent from the 2001 level of 472.

Residents elect five councillors to govern the village. The village council appoints the mayor annually at its organizational meeting.

Since May 2006, there has been an agreement between the county and the village that an employee of the county would fill the position of chief administrative officer for the village.

What is the financial situation in Caroline?

Note: *The following financial information is taken from the Village of Caroline's audited 2005 municipal financial statement and from the Alberta Capital Finance Authority's records.*

Operating Fund

The village manages its cash flow and has not required short-term borrowing to finance its operations.

Since 2001, the village's operating revenues exceeded its operating expenditures, and excess revenue was used for capital purchases, transferred to reserves, or remained in the operating fund.

On December 31, 2005, the village's operating fund balance was $121,310.

Capital Reserves

Reserves help the village plan and pay for future projects or emergency repairs. If reserves are not sufficient, the village may have to fund future capital projects or emergency repairs from the property tax levy or by borrowing.

On December 31, 2005, the village held capital reserves of $168,589.

Debt

The village borrowed money from the Alberta Capital Finance Authority for capital projects as identified in Table 1.

According to the Alberta Capital Finance Authority, on December 23, 2005, the amount of village debt remaining was $111,383. In 2006, the village borrowed an additional $107,099 to construct a storm sewer, pave 50th Street, and purchase a gravel truck.

For 2006, the annual payment on the total debt was $45,844. For 2007, the annual payment will be $50,228. All existing debt will be paid off in 2009.

For a summary of the debt, see Table 1.

Equalized Property Tax Assessment

Equalized assessment is a uniform way of comparing property wealth for all municipalities and is calculated by Alberta Municipal Affairs and Housing.

The village's equalized property assessment for 2006 was $18,728,900. It has increased 13 percent from 2002 to 2006. The assessment base is comprised of approximately 66 percent residential assessment and 34 percent non-residential assessment.

Village Net Municipal Property Tax

The net municipal property tax levy is the amount of money required from the property assessment base to support the village's operations. It does not include requisitions for education or the seniors' foundation.

According to the tax rate bylaws, in 2002 the municipal property tax levy was $265,879, and in 2006 it was $316,020. This amounts to an increase of 18.8 percent, or $50,141.

Tables 2 and 3 show what owners of sample residential and non-residential properties in Caroline paid to the village and could have expected to pay if Caroline had been a county hamlet in 2006.

What would remain the same if the village dissolves?

- 911 Service
- Ambulance Service
- Caroline Complex and Kurt Browning Arena
- Caroline Museum
- Electrical Power and Gas Utility Providers and Franchise Agreements
- Family and Community Support Services (FCSS) Programs
- Frontage and Local Improvement Taxes
- RCMP Service
- Safety Codes Inspection Services
- Streetlights

What would change if Caroline dissolves?

Clearwater County provides services in the hamlets of Alhambra, Condor, Leslieville, Nordegg and Withrow. Caroline residents would receive services at the same level as the other hamlets located in the county.

Potential changes include the following:

Bylaws

Currently, the village has various enforcement bylaws in place, which include, but are not limited to, untidy and unsightly premises, municipal curfew, and business licences.

Upon dissolution, existing village bylaws would remain in force in Caroline until the county council either amends, repeals, or replaces them. The county's intent is that the county's bylaws and administrative processes would be applied in Caroline as in other county hamlets.

The county would review all village bylaws. If a village bylaw is similar to a county bylaw, such as the animal control bylaw, the village bylaw would be repealed and replaced by the county bylaw. Where the county does not have a similar bylaw, such as the municipal curfew bylaw, the village bylaw may be retained for the hamlet of Caroline if it is fair and not inconsistent with existing county bylaws.

Bylaw Enforcement

The village presently enforces a dog control bylaw through a contracted service that would expire on June 30, 2007.

Upon dissolution, the county would assume the current animal control contract. When the contract expires, animal control would be included in the county's contract.

Special Constable Services would be provided in a manner consistent with the way it is provided in the other county hamlets.

The primary duty of the county's enforcement is the protection of road infrastructure. Traffic control and enforcement duties are secondary and attended to as opportunities and time permit.

Capital Projects

Currently, the village has a Growth and Infrastructure Master Plan.

Upon dissolution, the county would complete any projects that have commenced if funding is in place. Projects underway where sufficient funding is not in place could be completed by utilizing Caroline's reserve funds.

All capital plans, as adopted by the village, would be used as a reference when amending county capital plans to include Caroline.

Caroline and District Recreational and Agricultural Society

Recreation programs for the village and operation of the Caroline Complex and Kurt Browning Arena (the complex) are now the responsibility of the newly formed Caroline and District Recreational and Agricultural Society (the society). In the past, the Caroline and District Recreation Board submitted a budget to the village and the county for annual funding. The village provided 10 percent and the county provided 90 percent of the approved operational and capital funding.

Upon dissolution, ownership of the complex would transfer to the county. The newly formed society would be asked to operate the complex and to manage recreation in Caroline and district on behalf of the county. A new agreement between the county and the society would formalize this agreement as well as the society's use of municipal equipment. The county would fund recreation based on annual budget approvals. The society's membership bylaw may need to be changed to acknowledge a change in municipal representation.

Caroline Cemetery

At present, the village is responsible for the records, maintenance, and plot sales of the Caroline cemetery, which is located on village-owned land in the county.

Upon dissolution, the ownership and records for the cemetery would transfer to the county, which would initially manage and operate the cemetery.

Most county cemeteries are operated and managed by community associations with the county providing some assistance for development and maintenance. The county would look for a similar arrangement for the Caroline cemetery.

Caroline Library

Currently, the Caroline Municipal Library Board has full management and control of the library. The village is a member of the Parkland Regional Library System, which provides services to the municipal library. The village owns, maintains, and insures the library building and contents.

In accordance with the *Alberta Libraries Amendment Act*, the Caroline Municipal Library Board would dissolve at the time of the village dissolution. Assets owned by the village would become the county's property and those owned by the Parkland Regional Library System would be returned to the system.

Upon dissolution, the county is interested in maintaining a library in Caroline. Options are being reviewed.

Caroline Municipal RV Park and Sani-Dump

The village now operates a small RV park and sani-dump in Clearwater County on provincial Crown land, which is leased until February 4, 2011. The village collects the garbage and performs annual maintenance. A private contractor is hired to do the general maintenance and registration of campers.

Upon dissolution, the county would enter into a contract with a community group or a private contractor to assume management and operation of the campground and the sani-dump at no net financial loss to the county. If a contractor cannot be found, the county would consider closing the facility.

Community Organizations – Insurance

Currently, the village has a number of community groups listed on its insurance policy as "additional named insured." Each group pays its own insurance cost.

Upon dissolution, the county would be able to include the Caroline and District Recreational and Agricultural Society on its insurance policy as "additional named insured," but it would not be able to include recreational sport organizations, Dance West, or the Chamber of Commerce. The county has a different insurance carrier than the village, and this change would be in accordance with the practice of the county's insurance carrier.

Council Representation and Meetings

The village council now consists of five members elected at large from village residents. The village council appoints the mayor annually at the organizational meeting. Council meetings are at 7:00 p.m. on the second and fourth Tuesdays of the month. The councillors are appointed to boards and committees in the community.

Upon dissolution, Caroline residents would join the county's electoral division 6 (the division south of Highway 54). The division 6 councillor, Earl Graham, would represent Caroline residents as well as the residents from the rest of the division. The county council appoints the reeve annually at the organizational meeting.

Council meetings are at 9:00 a.m. on the second and fourth Tuesdays of the month at the county office in Rocky Mountain House.

Caroline residents would be represented by county councillors on boards and committees in the community. Caroline residents would be eligible for election to the county's council.

Disaster Services

Currently, the village has a municipal disaster preparedness plan and a disaster services mutual aid agreement with the Town of Rocky Mountain House and Clearwater County.

Upon dissolution, disaster services would be provided by the county and the mutual aid agreement would be amended as necessary.

Fire and Rescue Services

The village and surrounding area presently receives fire suppression and rescue services from the Caroline and District Volunteer Fire Department. The village owns the fire hall and a 1981 pumper truck.

Upon dissolution, the county would take over ownership of the fire hall and the village equipment and it would support the Caroline and District Volunteer Fire Department. When the village pumper requires expensive repairs, it would be removed from the fleet instead. The department would then maintain only one pumper in Caroline (i.e. the current county pumper) along with the other vehicles and equipment. This is the same practice as in the other hamlet fire stations.

Garbage Collection and Recycle Program

Currently, the village picks up garbage once a week from residential properties and up to three times a week from commercial properties. The recycle bins are emptied by the Rocky Mountain Regional Solid Waste Authority (authority). The village staff maintain the village office parking lot where the bins are located.

Twice a year, the village has a special garbage pick up for furniture and electrical appliances at no extra cost to residents.

Upon dissolution, Caroline residents and businesses would have to take their garbage to a transfer station (Crammond or Caroline) during the times they are open. The county does not provide garbage pick-up services for residents or businesses.

The authority would continue to empty the recycle bins and clean up the area when it is able; however, the authority would look to the users to help keep the area tidy.

Grants

The village currently applies for a variety of grants based on village priorities.

Upon dissolution, Caroline would no longer be eligible to apply for municipal grants; however, the county's allocation would increase. The county would use its grant funds to address the needs of the entire county, including the hamlets. For example, the Streets Improvement Program funding would be pooled and shared among the hamlets in the county based on need.

Grass Cutting

Currently, village staff cut the grass on municipal property, vacant lots, the cemetery, and unsightly premises.

Upon dissolution, the county would arrange for grass cutting and maintenance on municipal property. For instance, grass cutting for recreational properties is normally done through community associations. Grass cutting on private property or vacant lots is not done by the county unless it is part of a clean-up order issued by the county.

Monthly Property Tax Payment Plan

At present, the property taxes for mobile home units located in the village's mobile home park must be paid on a monthly payment plan. There is an optional monthly property tax payment plan for other village property owners.

Upon dissolution, the county would review the existing monthly property tax payment plans and may make changes.

The county offers an optional monthly property tax payment plan for all properties.

Municipal Planning

Currently, the village has a land use bylaw. The village contracts with Parkland Community Planning Services for municipal planning and development services.

Upon dissolution, the village's land use bylaw would be rescinded and the county's land use bylaw would be changed to include Caroline. County staff would provide municipal planning and development services for Caroline as they do for the county's other hamlets.

Municipal Property Taxes

The village now establishes tax rates that generate sufficient funds to pay for programs and services provided to residents and to cover some of the village's debt costs.

Upon dissolution, residents would be taxed at the county's tax rate and would receive programs and services that are standard for hamlets within the county. The county's 2006 combined tax rate for residential properties is approximately 52 percent less than the village's 2006 tax rate. For businesses, the tax rate is approximately 44 percent less.

Dissolution would not remove the obligation of Caroline residents to pay off the village's existing debts. The county would include a special levy, as a part of the property taxes levied in the hamlet of Caroline, for the annual payments on the village's existing debt.

For a breakdown of the 2006 property tax comparisons, refer to Tables 2 and 3.

Property Tax Due Dates and Penalties for Unpaid Taxes

Currently, village property taxes are due and payable by July 31 in the year they are levied. A penalty of 18 percent is assessed on any unpaid balance of current taxes as of August 1 and an additional 18 percent is assessed on any unpaid balance on January 1 of the following year.

Upon dissolution, Caroline residents would receive a combined assessment and property tax notice from the county with due dates and penalties as follows:

- Residential and non-residential property taxes are due and payable by September 15 in the year they are levied. A penalty of eight percent is assessed on any unpaid balance of current taxes after September 15, and two percent on any unpaid balance of current taxes after September 30. On January 1 of the following year, a penalty of two percent is levied on the total unpaid property tax balance.
- Farm property taxes are due and payable by December 15 in the year they are levied. On January 1 of the following year, a penalty of two percent is levied on the total unpaid property tax balance.

Property Taxes Owing

Currently, there are some outstanding property taxes owing to the village.

Upon dissolution, any property taxes owing to the village would become property taxes owing to the county, and will be subject to the penalties as stated above.

Both the village and the county follow the legislated property tax arrears recovery process. When property taxes are more than one year in arrears, a tax recovery notification is placed on the Certificate of Title.

The following year, if the property taxes are still outstanding, the property is sold by auction to recover the property taxes owing.

Sidewalks and Parking Lots

At present, the village inspects and repairs sidewalks on a regular basis. The village also clears snow from all sidewalks, and the parking lots at the Caroline Complex, the Kurt Browning Arena, the Mountain Sunset Manor, the Drop In Center, and the Royal Canadian Legion.

Upon dissolution, the county's policy for prioritizing sidewalk maintenance and snow clearance for hamlets would apply to Caroline. The county would assume responsibility for inspecting and repairing sidewalks. Village property owners, including community organizations, would be responsible for clearing snow from their own sidewalks and parking lots.

The county would assume responsibility for clearing snow from the complex and arena parking lot based on county priorities and scheduling, unless reasonable arrangements can be made with another organization.

Streets

Currently, the village provides routine roadway maintenance, snow ploughing, and snow removal with village equipment. Major roadway repair or construction and street sweeping are contracted out.

Upon dissolution, Caroline would be subject to the county's roadway maintenance and snow clearing policy and standards for hamlets. Internal streets would receive snow removal within 96 hours of a major event, with bus routes being the priority. Roads would receive maintenance and road grading on an as-required basis consistent with the service provided elsewhere in the county. This includes street sweeping, road grading, and pothole repair.

Utility Rates

The current village utility rates for water and sewer are sufficient to cover the operating costs of the utility. This includes staff time but not the annual debt payments for the utility system, which are paid from property taxes. Water meters are installed on non-residential properties.

The village sends out utility bills every two months. A 10 percent penalty is applied to unpaid utility charges after 30 days. All past due amounts over $10 are transferred to the applicable property tax account if still unpaid 30 days after the past due notification.

Upon dissolution, the county would continue to apply the existing water and sewer rates until the county has experience with the system. The county would then set utility rates to recover operational costs and to create a reserve to facilitate repairs. All properties would have water meters installed as resources and opportunities permit. This may result in a change in utility rates for Caroline residents and businesses.

The county sends out utility bills every three months. In accordance with the county's accounts receivable policy, a two percent penalty is applied to unpaid utility charges after 30 days, five percent after 60 days, and eight percent after 90 days. After 120 days, unpaid balances are transferred to property taxes, put in the hands of a collection agency, or taken to court.

Village Assets and Liabilities

On December 31, 2005, the village had liquid financial assets of $532,646. These include cash, receivables, and land for resale. Additional assets include such things as buildings and public works equipment.

On December 31, 2005, the village had financial liabilities of $318,230.

These include such things as long-term debt, deferred revenue, and accounts payable by the village.

Upon dissolution, the village assets and liabilities would transfer to the county.

The county must deposit cash and proceeds from the sale of Caroline assets into a special reserve fund that could only be used to reduce a liability incurred by Caroline, or for projects in Caroline. The county would use the surplus funds from Caroline to make repairs to existing infrastructure.

To deal with the debt, the county would apply an annual special debt levy on all Caroline properties until the existing debts are paid off in 2009.

Existing frontage tax levies or local improvement taxes would continue until the debt is paid off, unless the property owners arrange to pay off the debt sooner.

Village Employees and Administration

Currently, there are four full-time and two part-time staff positions with the village. Since May 2006, there has been an agreement between the county and the village that an employee of the county fills the position of chief administrative officer for the village. The village hires a Summer Temporary Employment Program (STEP) employee for the Public Works department during the summer months.

Upon dissolution, the county employee, who is the village's chief administrative officer, would work solely for the county and the duties assigned to this position would change.

The county may retain one public works staff member to supervise work in Caroline and other locations in the county. Other village employees would be released following proper notice or severance. They would be welcome to apply for positions available in the county. The county hires STEP employees who work throughout the county.

Village Office

The village now owns its office building. The office is open to the public on Tuesday to Friday from 8:30 am to 12:00 am and from 1:00 pm to 4:30 pm.

Upon dissolution, ownership of the village office building would transfer to the county and the office would be closed. As with other hamlets in the county, all municipal administrative services, including property tax and utility payments, would be provided out of the county office in the Town of Rocky Mountain House. The county office is open to the public on Monday to Friday from 8:15 am to 12:00 am and from 1:00 pm to 4:30 pm.

After all transitional issues are addressed the county would consider selling the village office building.

Water Supply and Distribution and Wastewater Collection and Treatment

Currently, the village owns and operates the waterworks and waste water systems pursuant to the Code of Practice issued by Alberta Environment. Alberta Environment issued notice to the village to develop an Operations Plan for the water supply and distribution system by February 1, 2007.

Village staff are on call 24 hours a day to respond to emergencies.

Upon dissolution, the county would manage the waterworks and waste water systems pursuant to the Code of Practice issued by Alberta Environment. The county would hire a licensed operator, although this person may not live in Caroline.

The county maintains an emergency call system when the county office is closed. Response to emergencies in Caroline would be based on county priorities and may be slower than what currently occurs. Repairs would be undertaken by contractors.

Table 1

Village Debt Summary

Year	Project Description	Original Loan Amount	Amount Remaining December 31, 2005	Loan Period	Annual Payment Amount	Funding Source	Final Payment Year
1980	Sewage treatment facility upgrade	$110,950	$ 12,234	25 yrs	$14,822	Property tax	2006
1988	Water reservoir, water treatment facility, and pump house	$192,996	$ 72,695	20 yrs	$23,057	Property tax	2009
1994	Paving and sidewalks	$ 61,900	$ 25,454	15 yrs	$ 7,965	Property and frontage tax	2009
		2006 Total Debenture Payment			**$45,844**		
2006	Gravel truck and 50th Street paving	$107,099	*$107,099	6 yrs	**$19,206	Property tax	2009
		2007 Total Debenture Payment			**$50,228**		

* As of December 31, 2006

**Annual payments begin in 2007

Long Term Debt Mill Rate

2006
Village of Caroline Property Tax Rate Bylaw 22/06 2.2670 mills

2007
Debenture Payment 50,228 x 1000 = 2.4852 mills
2006 Live Assessment 20,210,650

Table 2

Caroline Residential Property Tax Comparison

2006 Municipal and School Taxes

Note: This table shows the changes that could be seen for three actual residential properties in Caroline if the village were to dissolve. Property taxes may not be the only financial cost associated with living in Caroline that would change. Utility rates could change, and additional fees may be considered for services that Caroline now provides to residents that Clearwater County does not provide in hamlets. These factors would have an effect on the cost of living in Caroline.

2006 Residential Tax Rates

Village of Caroline		Clearwater County	
Municipal	13.3690	Municipal	3.2000
Levy for Village Debt	2.2670	School Tax	4.2186
School Tax	4.6060	Seniors Foundation	0.0992
Seniors Foundation	0.1190	**Total**	**7.5178**
Total	**20.3610**		

If Caroline remains a village

Actual 2006 residential property taxes levied on three properties in Caroline based on the 2006 village residential tax rates

	Assessment		Village Tax Rate + Levy for Debt				Caroline Property Taxes
Property 1	$ 43,440	x	(18.0940 mills + 2.2670 mills)	x	0.001	=	$ 884
Property 2	$ 81,230	x	(18.0940 mills + 2.2670 mills)	x	0.001	=	$ 1,654
Property 3	$ 146,880	x	(18.0940 mills + 2.2670 mills)	x	0.001	=	$ 2,991

If Caroline dissolves

Estimated residential property taxes for the same three properties based on the 2006 county residential tax rates and 2006 annual debt payment

	Assessment		Village Tax Rate + Levy for Debt				Clearwater Property Taxes
Property 1	$ 43,440	x	(7.5178 mills + 2.2670 mills)	x	0.001	=	$ 425
Property 2	$ 81,230	x	(7.5178 mills + 2.2670 mills)	x	0.001	=	$ 795
Property 3	$ 146,880	x	(7.5178 mills + 2.2670 mills)	x	0.001	=	$ 1,437

Property taxes that would be paid to Clearwater County if Caroline were to become a hamlet are less than those paid to the Village of Caroline. The county collects less property tax per property as it provides lower levels of services as outlined in this dissolution study.

Table 3

Caroline Non - Residential Property Tax Comparison

2006 Municipal and School Taxes

Note: This table shows the changes that could be seen for three actual non-residential properties in Caroline if the village were to dissolve. Taxes may not be the only financial cost associated with living in Caroline that would change. Utility rates could change, and additional fees may be considered for services that Caroline now provides to residents that Clearwater County does not provide in hamlets. These factors would have an effect on the cost of living in Caroline.

2006 Non-Residential Tax Rates

Village of Caroline		Clearwater County	
Municipal	13.3690	Municipal	4.7858
Levy for Village Debt	2.2670	School Tax	5.3280
School Tax	6.7170	Seniors Foundation	0.0992
Seniors Foundation	0.1190	**Total**	**10.2378**
Total	**22.4720**		

If Caroline remains a village

Actual 2006 non-residential property taxes levied on three properties in Caroline based on the 2006 village non-residential tax rates

	Assessment		Village Tax Rate + Levy for Debt				Caroline Property Taxes
Property 1	$ 81,330	x	(20.2050 mills + 2.2670 mills)	x	0.001	=	$ 1,828
Property 2	$ 137,200	x	(20.2050 mills + 2.2670 mills)	x	0.001	=	$ 3,083
Property 3	$ 326,690	x	(20.2050 mills + 2.2670 mills)	x	0.001	=	$ 7,341

If Caroline dissolves

Estimated non-residential property taxes for the same three properties based on the 2006 county non-residential tax rates and 2006 annual debt payment

	Assessment		Village Tax Rate + Levy for Debt				Clearwater Property Taxes
Property 1	$ 81,330	x	(10.2378 mills + 2.2670 mills)	x	0.001	=	$ 1,017
Property 2	$ 137,200	x	(10.2378 mills + 2.2670 mills)	x	0.001	=	$ 1,716
Property 3	$ 326,690	x	(10.2378 mills + 2.2670 mills)	x	0.001	=	$ 4,085

Property taxes that would be paid to Clearwater County if Caroline were to become a hamlet are less than those paid to the Village of Caroline. The county collects less property tax per property as it provides lower levels of services as outlined in this dissolution study.

Notes

Notes

How do I get more information?

A public meeting will be held to discuss the information in the dissolution study. All village residents will be mailed a notice of the public meeting and are encouraged to attend.

Officials from Alberta Municipal Affairs and Housing will present the dissolution study and will be available to answer your questions.

What happens next?

The Minister of Municipal Affairs and Housing makes a recommendation to the provincial Cabinet as to whether or not the village should dissolve.

In making a recommendation, the Minister considers this report, the issues raised at the public meeting, and the views of the village and the county councils.

Will there be a vote on dissolution?

If the Minister believes it is required, a vote of Caroline residents may be held on the question of dissolution prior to a final recommendation being made.

What will happen if the village dissolves?

If the Minister recommends dissolution and the provincial Cabinet agrees, the existing village council and administration would work with the county to wind up the village's affairs by the recommended dissolution date.

What will happen if the village does not dissolve?

The Village of Caroline will maintain its status as an incorporated municipality. The village's council will continue to be responsible for providing governance, for levying taxes, and for providing municipal services to the village.

For further information, contact:

Coral Callioux or Linda Reynolds of Alberta Municipal Affairs and Housing, by dialling 310-0000 (toll free) and entering (780) 427-2225.